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SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Have Government paid the cost of the stocks freezed by the Prohibition Police?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" No, Sir, they will be allowed to sell them to licenced doctors."

DR. P. S. SRINIVASAN :—" May I know why Government should not give free licence to medical practitioners?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" No, Sir, that will be very difficult."

Boring sets and power drills.

* 69 *Q*.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of boring sets and power drills with the Department of Industries available for the use of the public;

(*b*) the terms on which they are available;

(*c*) the cost of the staff employed for maintaining these sets and drills;

(*d*) the income that accrued to the Government on account of hire charges during 1946–47, 1947–48 and 1948–49;

(*e*) the number of borings attempted during 1946–47, 1947–48 and 1948–49;

(*f*) the number of successful borings during these years;

(*g*) whether there is a proposal to increase the number of boring sets and power drills; and

(*h*) whether it is proposed to transfer this part of the work to the Department of Agriculture as recommended by the Retrenchment Committee?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Industries) :—" (*a*) 153 hand-boring sets and 23 power drills are available with the department for being hired out to the public.

" (*b*) A booklet [a] containing the information is placed on the table of the House.

" (*c*) The cost of the staff engaged on the maintenance of 153 boring sets and 23 power drills is approximately Rs. 1,26,600 per annum and Rs. 45,600 per annum respectively inclusive of allowances.

" (*d*) The gross income that accrued to Government on account of hire charges during 1946–47, 1947–48 and 1948–49 is approximately as follows :—

	RS.
1946–47	1,27,717
1947–48	1,04,960
1948–49	72,831

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 799–810 infra.

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" (e) The numbers of borings undertaken during 1946–47, 1947–48 and 1948–49 were—

1946–47	966
1947–48	1,182
1948–49	1,285

" (f) The numbers of successful borings put down during these years were—

1946–47	781
1947–48	924
1948–49	976

" (g) The Government have sanctioned the manufacture of 40 hand-boring sets in the Industrial Engineering Workshops, Madras, and the purchase of 17 power drills. Out of these, 12 hand-boring sets have been manufactured and 5 oil engine drills have been received from the suppliers.

" (h) No. The Government have decided that boring work should continue to be done by the Industries Department. However, 50 per cent of the hand-boring sets (excluding those specially manufactured for rural water-supply work) and 50 per cent of the power drills will be earmarked exclusively for agricultural purposes."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" How long will successful borings work satisfactorily without giving rise to difficulties? " 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It depends upon the area and the nature of the soil."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" As the success of Grow More Food Campaign depends on adequate water-supply, what steps have the Government taken to increase the number of hand-boring sets and power drills? Twelve new hand-boring sets are quite inadequate. If the Industrial Engineering Workshop is not able to manufacture the required number, will the Government order them from elsewhere? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" At the time the answer was prepared, only 12 hand-boring sets were supplied out of the 40 sanctioned for manufacture. I expect that our Engineering Workshop will be able to manufacture quickly and supply the remaining sets."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Do the Government think that the addition of 40 hand-boring sets is sufficient for an extensive Province like this? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" That is what the department suggested. If it is necessary to have more, the Government will sanction more."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" What percentage of borings have been successful in Rayalaseema districts? "

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It all depends upon the nature of the soil. Borings have been successful in red soil, but they have not always been quite successful in black cotton soil."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In view of the need for adequate water for irrigation and drinking, will the Government ask the Commissioner of Food Production whether the number of boring sets are enough and arrange for more sets if there is greater demand? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" So far as I know, the Commissioner of Food Production has not taken up the construction of bore-wells. We are concentrating more on repair and restoration of minor irrigation sources and we have enough work under that scheme. Anyway, the suggestion will be placed before the Commissioner for Food Production, and more boring sets will be made available if necessary."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Have the Government conducted any investigation for ascertaining whether the sets will be useful in all districts? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I should have notice of this question."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" In the district of Bellary from which the Hon. Minister hails, have these borings been successful in providing drinking water and water for irrigating at least a few acres? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The hon. Member also hails from the same district and I do not know what more information he can get from me than what he knows."

Distribution of semolina.

* 70 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI (on behalf of Sri M. Narayana Rao) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of semolina that has been distributed in the various districts in this Province for sale, the quantity that has been sold, the quantity that has been condemned as unfit for consumption and the cost of the same; and

(*b*) the price at which the semolina is issued and whether the said price is considered comparatively high?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" (*a*) The answer to this question and to the first part of clause (*b*) of the question are placed [a] on the table of the House.

" (*b*) It cannot be said that the issue price of semolina fixed by the Government is high as the price has to be fixed with reference to the actual supply price charged by the Government of India plus incidentals. As the Government of India

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 811–812 infra.